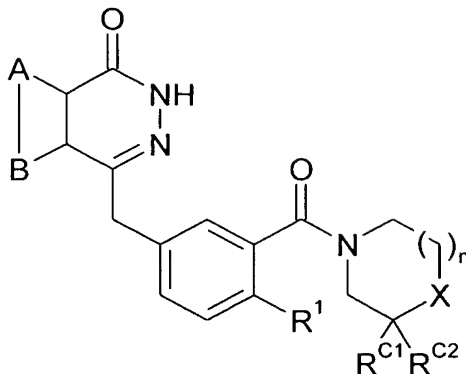


# Claims

1. A compound of the formula (I):



- 5 and isomers, salts, solvates, chemically protected forms, and prodrugs thereof, wherein:
- A and B together represent an optionally substituted, fused aromatic ring;
- X can be NR<sup>X</sup> or CR<sup>X</sup>R<sup>Y</sup>;
- 10 if X = NR<sup>X</sup> then n is 1 or 2 and if X = CR<sup>X</sup>R<sup>Y</sup> then n is 1;
- R<sup>X</sup> is selected from the group consisting of H, optionally substituted C<sub>1-20</sub> alkyl, C<sub>5-20</sub> aryl, C<sub>3-20</sub> heterocyclyl, amido, thioamido, ester, acyl, and sulfonyl groups;
- R<sup>Y</sup> is selected from H, hydroxy, amino;
- 15 or R<sup>X</sup> and R<sup>Y</sup> may together form a spiro-C<sub>3-7</sub> cycloalkyl or heterocyclyl group;
- R<sup>C1</sup> and R<sup>C2</sup> are both hydrogen, or when X is CR<sup>X</sup>R<sup>Y</sup>, R<sup>C1</sup>, R<sup>C2</sup>, R<sup>X</sup> and R<sup>Y</sup>, together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached, may form an optionally substituted fused aromatic ring; and
- 20 R<sup>1</sup> is selected from H and halo.

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the fused aromatic ring(s) represented by -A-B- consist of solely carbon ring atoms.

25 3. A compound according to claim 2, wherein the fused aromatic ring represented by -A-B- is benzene.

4. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from H, Cl and F.

5. A compound according to claim 1, wherein  $R^{C1}$  and  $R^{C2}$  are both hydrogen.

6. A compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 2, X is  $NR^X$ , and  $R^X$  is selected from the group consisting of: H; optionally substituted  $C_{1-20}$  alkyl; optionally substituted  $C_{5-20}$  aryl; optionally substituted ester groups; optionally substituted acyl groups; optionally substituted amido groups; optionally substituted thioamido groups; and optionally substituted sulfonyl groups.

7. A compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 1, X is  $NR^X$ , and  $R^X$  is selected from the group consisting of: H; optionally substituted  $C_{1-20}$  alkyl; optionally substituted  $C_{5-20}$  aryl; optionally substituted acyl; optionally substituted sulfonyl; optionally substituted amido; and optionally substituted thioamido groups.

8. A compound according to claim 1, wherein n is 1, X is  $CR^X R^Y$ ,  $R^Y$  is H, and  $R^X$  is selected from the group consisting of: H; optionally substituted  $C_{1-20}$  alkyl; optionally substituted  $C_{5-20}$  aryl; optionally substituted  $C_{3-20}$  heterocyclyl; optionally substituted acyl; optionally substituted amido; and optionally substituted ester groups.

9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

10. A method of treatment of a disease ameliorated by the inhibition of PARP, comprising administering to a subject in need of treatment a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

11. A method of treatment of cancer, comprising administering to a subject in need of treatment a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 simultaneously or sequentially in combination with ionising radiation or a chemotherapeutic agent.

12. A method of treatment of cancer in an individual comprising; administering a compound according to claim 1, wherein said cancer is deficient in a HR dependent DNA DSB repair pathway.

13. A method according to claim 12 comprising the step of identifying

the individual as having a cancer condition which is deficient in a HR dependent DNA DSB repair pathway.

14. A method according to claim 13 comprising administering ionising  
5 radiation or a chemotherapeutic agent to said individual.

15. A method according to claim 12, wherein said cancer comprises one  
or more cancer cells having a reduced or abrogated ability to repair  
DNA DSB by HR relative to normal cells.

10 16. A method according to claim 15, wherein said cancer cells have a  
BRCA1 or BRCA2 deficient phenotype.

15 17. A method according to claim 16, wherein said cancer cells are  
deficient in BRCA1 or BRCA2.

18. A method according to claim 12, wherein said cancer is breast,  
ovary, pancreas or prostate cancer.

20 19. A method according to claim 12, wherein said individual is  
heterozygous for a mutation in a gene encoding a component of the HR  
dependent DNA DSB repair pathway.